

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pole apparatus for use in the installation of a suspended ceiling comprising:

a telescoping body having an interior, an open end and a closed end, and defining an aperture that permits access into said interior;

a first connector mounted on said open end of said body, said first connector defining ~~an~~ a first axial bore in communication with said interior of said body and having a locking apparatus adapted to extend into said axial bore, said first connector further defining a second axial bore;

a second connector mounted on said closed end of said body, said second connector having a base and an arm extending outwardly from said base in axial alignment with said body, said arm being engagable by a rotary tool;

a tool having a mounting portion adapted to engage said second axial bore of said first connector, said tool ~~and~~ being removably secured to said first connector by said locking apparatus; and

a fastener removably supported on said tool.

2. (Original) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first connector further comprises at least one alignment face.

Claims 3-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said first connector further comprises a hexagonal side wall.

Claims 8-10 (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said locking apparatus comprises a locking screw.

12. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said locking apparatus comprises a quick disconnect system.

13. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 12, wherein said quick disconnect system comprises a ball lock.

14. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 12, wherein said quick disconnect system comprises spring biased teeth.

15. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said quick disconnect system comprises a spring biased pin.

16. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 1, wherein said second connector further comprises a hexagonal surface.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Presented) A pole apparatus for use in the installation of a suspended ceiling comprising:

an elongated body having a first end and a second end;

a connector positioned on said first end of said body;

a tool removably secured to said connector, the tool having a body, the body having a first and a second channel defined therein, the channels extending perpendicular to each other.

19. (Withdrawn) The pole apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a fastener that is removably supported by said channels of said tool.

20. (Withdrawn) The pole apparatus of claim 19, wherein said fastener comprises a lag screw.

21. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 18, wherein said tool further comprises a retainer ring disposed around said body.

22. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 18, further comprising a second connector mounted on said second end of said body, said second connector having a base and an arm extending outwardly from said base in alignment with a longitudinal axis of said body, said arm being engageable by a rotary tool.

23. (Previously Presented) The pole apparatus of claim 18, wherein said elongated body is a telescoping tubular body having an interior, an open and a closed end and defining an aperture that permits access into said interior.
